

**Minutes of the AGM of Test Valley Turners held via Zoom at 7.30 pm Mon 15 January 2024**

1. The meeting was held via Zoom, with 35 logged-on. The requirement for a quorum was thus met. In addition, 5 members had declared their support for the items under discussion
2. Minutes of last meeting. The minutes had been pre-circulated and were taken as read.

Proposed Andy Matthews; Seconded Christine Pearce Adopted unanimously

1. The Chairman’s report which had been pre-circulated was presented by Ron Caddy

The Chairman stressed the need for a volunteer to shadow the treasurer ahead of this intended retirement in Jan 2025.

Proposed: Paul Patterson, Seconded: Jim Musters Adopted unanimously

1. Les Revell trophy –
	1. The committee had reviewed the gallery contributions throughout the year and decided that the quantity and quality of pieces from Paul Kenny justified him being awarded the trophy for 2023.
	2. the committee has decided that all winners should receive a winner’s certificate as a permanent recognition of their achievement.
2. The financial position. The Treasurer’s report and financial statement are included below. Following proposal by Philip Wray, seconded by Ed Holmes, the report was adopted unanimously.
3. Subscription for 2023. Following discussion of the financial position, the Treasurer recommended that the subscription be retained at £50 for 2024.

This was proposed by Tony Wickham, seconded by Rod Dossett. Adopted unanimously.

1. Officers and committee.

The secretary had declared his intention to step down, the remaining officers and committee members are eligible and willing to stand for re-election.

Paul Kenny and Philip Wray have indicated their willingness to stand as co-secretaries.

Chairman and Treasurer Proposed by Graham Lee, Seconded by Jean Turner.

Re-elected unanimously.

Co-secretaries Proposed by Ron Caddy, Seconded Graham Barnard. Elected unanimously.

Committee: proposed by Chris Sharp, seconded Ed Holmes. Re-elected unanimously.

It was noted that the treasurer would retire at the 2025 AGM.

1. Programme.
	1. The draft programme had been circulated and was adopted unanimously.
	2. Chairman’s challenge. Members were invited to enter “a piece of their choice. made from a 6x6x3”/150x150x75mm blank” at the July meeting. This is open to all members and should be to their own design.

The winner will be selected by a poll of all members present

The July meeting will allow time for an extended consideration and critique of the entries.

1. There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Graham Barnard

Ex Hon Secretary Test Valley Turners. 19 January 2024



Please reply to:

Ron Caddy

(Hon. Chairman)

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**Test Valley Turners A.G.M. 15TH January 2024**

**Hon. Chairman’s Report for 2023**

When I started Test Valley Turners in April 1993 I didn’t Imagine that 30 years later we would have such a vibrant active group, we started with a maximum membership of 35 (to keep it friendly!) And that throughout the years we would always have a full membership because of the local interest in Woodturning with membership now at 55 and hopefully still Friendly!

The year 2023 for many has possibly been a good year for others not so, personally I had to have further operations for Cancer with regular Immunotherapy session which will be continuing throughout this year; however, it has been a good year for TVT with an excellent programme which was planned and arranged by our Secretary Graham Barnard.

 Some meetings as in 2022 were Online and onsite whilst others were held in the Hall only. The “Online” evenings included John Beaver (USA), Andrew Hall (now only doing IRD’s ), and Pat Caroll (Ireland)

Demonstrators in Longstock Hall included Andy Fortune, Alan Thomos (Cornwall and now retired from Woodturning), Les Thorne, Gregory Moreton. We also thank members Mark Lyman and Andy Matthews for their demonstrations. Members are not directly paid for the demo’s but receive the following year’s membership FREE. Our final demonstrator of the year was Honorary Member Stuart Mortimer who asked me to apologise to you as in his words “It was not a good demo!” Could I also add in response to a comment from a member about that evening, what we were watching was a demonstration of how Stuart works and not a tutorial. Members are responsible for their own safety: if you see something in a Demo that you consider would be dangerous for you, DO NOT DO IT. It was also good to have present at that meeting 2 other Honorary Members Gary Rance (one of our original encouragers) and Les Thorne.

We also introduced this past year ‘The Chairman’s Challenge’ we were so impressed with the participation in this that the decision was made for this to be given a ‘half meeting slot to enable a more appropriate ‘Critique/Encouragement’ for the pieces entered. This will continue in 2024

Our two social evenings have now become a ‘tradition’ In August we met at The Mill Arms Dunbridge which unfortunately was not available to us for December. This gave us the opportunity to ‘look around’ for other venues which had a Skittle Alley, which proved to be very few. The result was The Eagle at Abbotts Ann, although the food was good it was felt by the members who attended that it was not the right venue for us. Hopefully for 2024 we will return to The Mill Arms. I do encourage you to attend these events as they are great fun evening (perhaps not the Quizzes sometimes!!) It also allows our wives/partners/family to share a club evening with us.

It has become an important aspect of my Report at this point to thank our Group Officers and Committee Members who serve us so well in the smooth operation of the Group throughout the year and enabling the Group to run so successfully. This is particularly important this year as Graham Barnard has served us so well for many, many years is standing down from the position. A great deal of the success of the Group is down to Graham and our equally long serving Treasurer Don Donaldson. Don is willing to serve with your agreement for another year, but we do urgently require a member to volunteer to serve as an Assistant Treasurer/Shadow for this coming year with the plan to be willing to stand as our Treasurer in 2025. Likewise, the Committee Members serve us well and if you feel that you are able to contribute, please speak to me or our Secretary, In addition to the Committee we do have a number of volunteers who serve us admirably such as David Fakes who continually allows us storage space within his sheds and ‘trundles’ machinery from his home next door for our evening meetings. We are also thankful to Vernon Needham for his co-ordination of the Coffee Team. To Paul Patterson for running the monthly raffle and Steve also Rod for the Social Raffles. Simon for arranging the Group Library, a good source of information without having to buy for yourself books or DVD’s. Matthew who is succeeding Colind Sheppard in arranging our Sound and OHP. Now that our ‘Chestnut Shop’ is seeing regular business we do thank Tony Gazzard taking care of this.

As in a previous comment if you feel that you could contribute in helping the Group to run more effectively please do speak to us.

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**The Les Revell Trophy**

For newer members Les Revell was one of our founding members who taught and mentored many new to Woodturning (including then John Davis). His particular interest was in developing Novice Turners and encouraging others to improve their Turning. In 2002 we introduced the Les Revell Trophy which was created and donated by John and Jan Sanders (who had themselves introduced and taught Les Woodturning) This award is annually presented to the member who we consider has made the most progress in their woodturning in the past year whether they be Novice, Beginner, Intermediate or Advanced.

The Gallery is an excellent way for others to see your work, it is not a Competition: It does enable us to see how you are progressing. Arnold does photograph them for the Website and collates the forms that you complete, one member recently showed 6 samples of his work so there is no limit to what you show. We do give each member ONE ticket for showing with the drawn ticket receiving £10 each month.

You can also submit photographs of your work to Arnold Catterall to be included in the assessments.

**Ron K Caddy**

**Honorary Chairman**

**TEST VALLEY TURNERS**

**Financial Statement AGM 2024**

I am pleased to report that, unlike last year, our financial situation at the end of 2023 is much more positive.

As I mentioned last year our fixed costs, hall hire, insurance, zoom subscriptions, gallery prizes and website fees take up nearly 50% of our subscription income. However, with the increase in subscriptions last year, that leaves us more income for our main expenditure line, which is our evening demonstrators. Last year we spent £1,818, a little less than the year before but still a substantial sum. In the coming year this is forecast to be about £1400, a significant reduction mainly due to club members volunteering their services. Additionally, we are now being charged the “village rate” for the hall hire which will save us £240 this year.

Extra income is derived from the monthly raffle, the social raffle, sale of Chestnut products and from the provision of tea, coffee and biscuits at our meetings. I would like to thank the membership for their support in these areas which significantly add to our income line.

Our current cash assets amount to £1,913.95 but we also have approximately £350 worth of Chestnut stock and raffle prizes, giving an overall figure of nearly £2,350. For 2024, assuming membership levels remain constant, and we have no unforeseen expenditure on property, we could see an increased income over expenditure next year, taking us back to close to our pre covid levels of cash assets.

Given this improved situation we recommend that the subscription for 2024 remains at £50.

At this point I would like to add to Ron’s praise for Graham. Because of his diligence and hard work, we have enjoyed a smoothly run club with some world class demonstrators during his long standing tenure. He has been a pleasure to work with and will now be able to enjoy the meetings without the stress associated with his role.

This year will be my 20th year as Treasurer and my last. I will serve another year but will stand down at the AGM in 2025. Our Constitution requires that we must have a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer so if no one comes forward to fill the role then the Chairman has a difficult decision to make. It is not an onerous job and only requires simple book keeping skills and a familiarity with an Excel spreadsheet plus a few hours time every month.

Finally, I would much appreciate prompt payment of subscriptions, preferably by BACS or by cheque, payable to Test Valley Turners, to my home address.

Don Donaldson

Hon Treasurer

Test Valley Turners

